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# -- Twenty Pages--

The crowds which have been attending the initial games of baseball prove that the game still holds the right to be called national.

The British press has had a great deal to say, first and last, about a war races in the United States. It looks now as if it were likely to occur in Africa.

In charging the city librarian with lack of discipline and at the same time refusing to give her authority to enforce it the School Board convicts itself of extreme littleness.

Two-thirds of every dollar received by the railroads for transportation goes to should prove that that element has a greater interest in their business than all

So long as it costs the postal department \$21,250,150 to carry the matter entered at second-class rates and only \$2,653,153 is received for the carriage, it is useless to talk about one-cent letter postage.

The people who desire a radical change hould see to it that good men are seected for candidates and that persons do not make themselves candidates who have no aptitude for such affairs.

St. Louis will provide 500 seats for cratic convention Chicago will provide only 250. The Republican party always did know best how to treat the press.

Any agreement which may be made with the Spanish authorities on the basis of the inauguration of reforms which will give Cuba something of self-government will be of little value. Liberal and fair government is a thing unknown to those who rule Spain.

Because of the doubt which the silver agitation has created in regard to our bonds, British consols bearing 2% per cent., reverting in a few years to 24 per cent, are selling in London at 111 while United States fours, with twentynine years to run, command than 1171/2

Many people will be surprised to learn dren in the same school. Such, however, Associaton has carried the outrageous law to the Supreme Court in the hope of having it set aside.

Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, is are that the great auditorium will not be able to hold the people who hear the distinguished South Carolinian." Distinguished for what except coarseness, violence and vituperation?

Pope Leo seems to be sincerely and ardently in favor of peace between the nations. His offer of mediation to bring about a settlement of the troubles in Cuba will doubtless receive more respectful attention from the Spanish government than would a similar offer from any other quarter, yet it is not lkely to be accepted.

A dispatch from Iowa announces that a farmer with a college education has turned a comparatively worthless piece of metal into real gold by a few hours' application of X rays. If gold can be made so cheaply the advocate of cheap money will soon be denouncing the silverite with the same epithets he now applies to the gold bug.

Mr. John J. Harrison, the recently cept the position has done what any while here that the Board of School Commissioners was a discredited body. at few, if any, of its acts met public poroval, that changes of a radical kind vere likely to be made in its memberhip and management and that many of s proceedings were likely to be set side at the first opportunity. He also aw that if the present majority should remain in control he was not likely to be riven proper authority over the instituone difficulties Miss Browning has met with. He came here in good faith, without doubt, and is in nowise to blame for the commotion his appointment stirred p. He deserves sympathy for having een unwittingly made a victim by the oard. Under other auspices he might ave made a satisfactory officer, but as is he was handicapped and wisely delined to put himself into an unfavorable oftion. As for the board, it is now in a

competency that it would refrain from efficient commissioners to look

### A METHODIST STORM CENTER.

It does not require unusual expertness in reading between the lines of the Journal's Methodist exchanges to foresee that the sessions of the General Conference which is to convene in Cleveland, O., on May 6 will be stormy. Scarcely a single feature of the polity that is peculiar to that church has escaped criticism within the last year or two, while some of its most distinctive peculiarities have been so assailed by leading men of the church as to forebode a determination to seek reform at any cost. These criticisms are not all new, some of the questions involved having been under discussion a hundred years or more, but hitherto they have been parried by the general answer that the church is successful under them, hence a change would be hazardous; but now it is more than doubtful whether what is called conservatism can any longer resist them. First in point of time, but not in im-

portance, comes the woman question, for

it must be met if not fought to a finish at the organization. Eight years ago five women presented the usual credentials as members-elect, assuming that the word "layman" as used in the Discipline was used generally and without reference to sex. This gave occasion for the bishops to assume an authority which was new and unprovided for. While they rightfully had no more authority to interfere with the matter than the Archbishop of Canterbury had, they instructed the organizing secretary to not call their names at the organization, finding their only precedent in the action of the Democratic secretary of the Indiana Senate a number of years ago, who omitted to call the name of Senator that no one was prepared to protest at the moment; besides, its work was accomplished, and a protest would have availed nothing, but the usurpation of authority has since been so ventilated in a thousand ways that it is safe to pre dict no such scheme will be resorted to at Cleveland, and that the names of three women who have been elected and duly furnished with certificates will be called when the roll is first called, and cussion with the women in, not out, as remain in can hardly be questioned, but the storm will be none the less fierce. for their opponents have resolved to die in the last ditch, and the New York Christian Advocate, called the great official, has more than intimated that under some contingencies they may be justifiable in withdrawing from the church if it becomes the settled policy of the church to admit women to the General Conference. The developments of the last few days will tend to intensify, not to mitigate, the antagonisms of the parties to this discussion. Some claim that the question of admission will be a original a question as it was in 1888, that and the decision of ineligibility which followed having nothing to do with the status of the question to-day. Others maintain that that decision cannot be disregarded unless, by the consent of three-fourths of the traveling preachers, the constitution is so amended as to specifically authorize their admission, although the decision in 1888 was by so narrow a majority that if two laymen who voted in the affirmative had voted in the negative the resolution declaring them ineligible would have failed; and women would have been thenceforward

eligible, without further question.

The status of the episcopacy will be

more than an open question; it will be a burning question. probable, if one judges from the criticisms of the office and the officers which have appeared lately in all the periodicals of the church, from the ponderous Review to the humblest Advocate on the list, that one in a hundred, if one in thousand, of the ministers or laity of the church cordially approves every feature of the episcopacy as it now exists. From the beginning some phases of it have been unsatisfactory to a large per cent. of the church, leading to several secessions, some of which resulted in the organization of large and prosperous nonepiscopal Methodist churches. The life tenure of the office, which has long elicited severe criticism, is not provided for by any law of the church. It was simply assumed by Bishop Asbury, the first bishop, in imitation of the bishops of the Catholic Church and the Church of England, while ostentatiously avon ing all the time that in Methodist polity it is only an office, not an order, and the early preachers did not protest because of his pre-eminent fitness for the office. Those that followed naturally enough assumed the same prerogative, and thus by usage, not by law, and out of harmony with every other office in the church, it has come to be claimed by the bishops and conceded by those who hope to be bishops to be a lifetime office. though for a half century or more the claim has been questioned with a growing sentiment against it until in 1888 the question was referred to the judiciary committee, most of whom were candidates at the time for the episcopacy, and who were voted for a few days later. The majority report, of course, favored the contention of the bishops while the minority report, signed by some of the best civil jurists in the country, contended that there was no justification for it in any of the statutes of the church. That question will be up again the coming General Conference coupled with several other questions affecting the present prerogatives of the bishops, not the least of which will be a proposition to take from them the exclusive right to assign the preachers to their respective fields of labor. It is expected, of course, that the bishops in as bishops in posse, of whom there are tions of the present form of the epis-Methodist preacher goes, a place in the discopacy is a good thing to have.

What is known in Methodist parlance tors have been assigned for a limited

some gifted preachers, the General Conference fixed a limit to the time a preacher might remain in one charge. two years, then three years, then five, which is the present limit. All along leading ministers and leading local wise. They claim that, however profitable short pastorates may have been in the rural districts and among pioneer settlers, they are detrimental to a proper development of church life and prosperity in towns, and especially in large cities. For example, the Methodists of Indianapolis feel that while for the last fifty years or more their pulpits have been filled by men whose scholarship and preaching ability were equal to the best, no Methodist pastor has ever been able to take such a hold on the moral, social and educational forces of the city as McCulloch, Rondthaler, Hyde, Dobbs, Peters, Bessonies and other pastors have had, whose tenure of office was not so arbitrarily fixed at the beginning as to constitute them necessarily birds of passage. Even the good they are doing is often neutralized by the assurance they must soon leave, giving demagogues occasion to parry their assaults upon social and political crimes by calling them "Itinerant vagabonds," as was done a few years ago by a leader of the lawless. It is somewhat paradoxical that the men who are most opposed to the removal of this time limit are the men who by their offices are themselves removed from itbishops, and editors, and secretaries, the most conspicuous of whom is the editor of the New York Advocate, who has already been sixteen years in his office, and is a candidate for re-election unless his brethren choose to make him a

But the storm center is likely to rage

around the question what to do with the

laymen. From the beginning Methodist laymen have clamored for recognition in the councils of the church, which to this giving the organization into the hands of day has been wholly denied them. the Democrats. It was such a surprise Though this denial has contributed to several large secessions from the church from its communion who were doctrinally and by birthright Methodists, yet the preachers continue to deny them any participation whatever in the government of the church. A somewhat plausfble pretense in this direction was attempted in 1872 by providing for what is called lay representation, in which there is not a particle of representation of the laity of the church. The so-called lay representatives are chosen by the quarterly conferences, which are composed of traveling preachers and of local officers of the church, every one of whom is directly or indirectly the creature of the pastors, not even the trustees of Sunday school superintendents or Epworth League presidents being entitled to seats until first approved by the quarterly conference. In addition to this they constitute less than one-third of the body itself, so that their influence is but nominal at best, some of the most important committees being almost wholly of ministers, as, for example, the committee on the episcopacy. The laity has been asking for at least equal representation, being willing to waive the method of election, but it by the ministers that that was a question which could be settled only by submitting it to a vote of the traveling preachers; if three-fourths would consent it might be done, but instead of the requisite three-fourths it received less than one-third. This is the situation at present, but the laymen are n no mood to leave it thus. There is a abandon the church on account of this ack of appreciation, but to reform the polity of the church so as to bring it into harmony with American thought. As this is impossible under such provisions as that which allows one-fourth of the traveling preachers to prevent any change in the constitution, they have proposed, by a liberal circulation of literature outside of the church periodicals, to provide for a commission for revising the constitution outside and independent of the provisions of the present constitution. They contend if the people of Rhode Island fifty years ago could secure an American constitution independent of the old colonial charter, and in spite of it and of the class it favored American Methodists can Americanize their polity in spite of the restrictions which seem to forbid it. They contend that the method prescribed in the constitution is not the only possible method of revising a constitution, they are preparing to test the question, and their contention will be only the more earnest because of the vote of two to one against equal representation which almost every layman demands, and the tion, which, with two small conferences to hear from at the time of this writing. has polled 7,511 in favor, against 2,609 opposed, lacking 154 of the required three-fourths, with no prospect that this 154 will be overcome by the remaining conferences. They are in rebellion

#### against such an un-American polity. AN INTERESTING DENIAL.

So much has been written of Abraham Lincoln that when it is announced that ject it has been assumed that the writer can present nothing new regarding that remarkable man and his deeds and words. Nevertheless, it has remained for the author of McClure's "Life of Lincoln" to refute a generally accepted report of an act of the man which was a dark stain upon his otherwise manly character. Reference is made to the statement that when all the preparations had been made for the marriage of Mr. Lincoln with Miss Todd he failed to make his appearance. On its face the story is improbable. That kindness of mont, is not a novelist in the common heart and consideration for the feelings of others which were such well-marked sible exceptions named, American noveltraits of Mr. Lincoln's character would lists compare more than favorably with have prevented him from inflicting such | the majority of British writers, and if cruelty upon any person as a failure to | their merits were exploited by publishappear on the day set for his marriage would be to the woman and her family. On the other side, it is not probable, if this story were true, that the proud and sensitive Mary Todd would ever again have seen the face of the man who had basely deserted her the day set for her history has taken the pains to fully intigate the story. He has caused

tives of Mrs. Lincoln living in Springfield at the time and intimate with the family, who would have been present had a wedding been intended, pronounce of men who were intimate with Mr. Lincoin in those years. Some of the relatives had never heard the story, and others concluded that it was so vague Todd had been broken for a time after the date of the marriage may have been considered is the statement of the old people consulted by the authors of Mc-Clure's "Life of Lincoln," and this was probably the basis of the story. It was given in Herndon's "Life of Lincoln, and was based upon the gossip of a clerk in the office of Miss Todd's brotherin-law, who did not live in or even as sociate with the family of his employer From the fact that the engagement had been broken when marriage was contemplated in the near future the story was evolved that the day was set, the clergyman and guests were present, and Miss Todd, dressed as a bride, waited for

the groom who came not. The testimony which McClure present to refute the story is conclusive against the unsustained story or gossip of Mr Herndon, who put into his biography several statements regarding his old partner which did Mr. Lincoln injustice.

## FOREIGN VS. NATIVE FICTION.

J. Selwyn Tait, a New York publisher

has been trying to explain why it is that works of English novelists have a greater sale in this country than the books of native story writers. His argument must be regarded as a defense of publishers for giving preference to foreign novels, and it cannot be said that he makes a good case. After stating that foreign authors last year contributed more than two-thirds of the fiction, published in this country, he declares that the cheap magazines cut into the heart of the book trade and so lessen the demand for new fiction. Since the cheap magazines, as well as the higher priced considerable portion of which is of English authorship, the bearing of their existence on the slighting of American authors by the book houses is not apparent. Upon the newspapers, however, is laid the chief blame for the condition of affairs. Newspapers are so sensa tional, he says, that ordinary readers are left with neither time nor inclination to take up fiction, unless it be of the kind which tends to further vitiation of the taste. The press, too, according to Mr. Tait, after creating this appetite for the exciting, condemns as "dime novels" the books of native writers who endeavor to cater to it in an honest way by producing works after the style of Doyle, Weyman and Hope. Summed up, his view is that the press must bear at least half the blame because it fails to make haste to "boom" each new American novel, and the public must bear the other half because of its adoration of the foreign writer. On account of this stupidity of the press and the people he concludes that the majority of our domestic publishers do not care to publish native works because it is so much easier and more profitable to handle the foreign

If Mr. Tait had contented himself with making this statement first and omitting the rest it would have been sufficient especially as he acknowledges that American novelists have, as a class, quite as much ability and aptitude for their work as their English brethren. In the first place, press notices of books about to be issued and of new authors do no get into the newspapers by accident, as every book publisher and every newspa per editor knows. Every well-conducted publishing house has a "literary bureau" quite as active operation as that of political candidate, whose business it is to keep the public informed as to what authors are doing. As the most direct means of reaching the people interested in such matters this bureau supplies the newspapers with accounts of the books much cheaper to buy a foreign copyright than to give a fair price to a native writer, and far easier to supply literary the trade journals of British publishers. the foreign novels are naturally preferred and this country flooded with far inferior to that written by American authors. Newspapers use as much or as little of the literary information furnished them as they choose, but when they have a mass of printed matter unloaded upon them asserting, for instance, that Madam Sarah Grand's "Heavenly Twins" is "the greatest novel of the century," and find but a three-line note concerning a book by a native author it is but natural for the newspaper editors to assume that publishers are judges of the merits of their own wares, and to give their own readers the substance of the announcements as authentic literary

It is mainly shrewd advertising, not the paid and labeled variety, but th kind classed as "news" that gives the great number of English novels th precedence. It was advertising which caused that exceedingly heavy book "Robert Elsmere" to have so great a run: it was advertising that sold innumerable editions of the trashy work "The Heavenly Twins," and it was again advertising that caused people to read "Ships that Pass in the Night" and to fancy that it was a work of genius when it was far from being so.

It may be admitted that at present spring and an endless succession of crops. England has perhaps two novelists who are greater in their way than any living American writer of fiction, but neither Hardy nor Meredith is a popular writer. Kipling, who must be classed as English, though he has spent the most of his life in India and now lives in Veracceptation of the term. With the poswould be even more eagerly sought for. The Journal believes that, other things being equal, the average American reader prefers a book which portrays phases of the life he knows bect, but the average reader, not being a strictly literary person, takes what is thrust upon his notice and unknowingly lets better books

regulation English tale with its tea and toast, and curates and twaddle which can be written by anybody who has the pattern-he reads these when he would really enjoy better Harold Frederic, Henry Fuller, Mrs. Catherwood, Gilbert Parker (a Canadian who writes American stories). Mrs. Rebecca Harding Davis, Miss Jewett, Mrs. Phelps-Ward, Miss Murfree or a host of others who could be named. Publisher Tait should remain silent unless be can offer a bet-

The Topeka Journal says that some of he counties in southwestern Kansas propose to avoid the payment of bonds voted in boom times by refusing to levy any taxes. Commenting on this situation, it says: "As long as Eastern bondholders insist on 'sound money' they need not be surprised at any turn which may be taken by the debt-burdened people of the West to escape the loss of their homes." This shows a very low grade of honesty. People who run in debt ought to weigh the difficulty of paying before they incur the obligation. The proposed action of the Kansas people shows that complete repudiation of honest debts is only a step further on the same line with the demand for cheap

Unless the latest reports from South Africa are panicky, the British Ministry has more of war on its hands than has Great Britain since it was in the Crimea, and one which will soon eat up the surplus of revenue the past year, about \$22,-000,000. The last British campaign did not reflect credit either upon the statesmanship or the military leadership of Great Britain. Partly for this reason the movements of the British in South Africa will be watched with more than usual interest.

New Signs of Spring. of spring. A few years ago it was taken for granted by some people that winter fled appearance of the flower-bedecked Easter bonnet. Others pinned their faith on joyful heart, as the harbinger of spring. The angler had an attack of that "tired feeling" goggle-eye" time. When the amateur garhooting out leaves, he felt certain the days his tulips, hyacinths and daffodils, so they, might bloom and tempt mischievous to commit vandalism or theft. and then began to reap his crop of lambs. dry enough to plow. All these were considered sure signs of spring less than a decade ago, but none was reliable. An early April bin sped back south; the angler braced up after attempting to impale a frozen worm; the gardener re-covered his flowers and the

The up-to-date man and woman, or boy and girl, take no stock in any of the old signs. that no blizzard can destroy. When they see the bicycle stores crowded the day time and thousands of lamps flashng in the streets at night, they know for certain spring has come; and even the "oldboy, all three on wheels, spinning by, with fishing rods (not poles-mark the distinction) and creeks attached to their backs or machines. These are some of the signs of the

At first glance one fails to see any conr ion. In the case of the Thomson-Houston Electric Company vs. Western Electric Company and others, in the United States Court of Appeals, at Chicago, counsel had drawn larity in appearance of various devices whose surposes and functions are wholly dissimilar. In his decision Judge Woods said:

way of further illustration it is there is a cabinet in the Agassiz Musnounted skeletons beginning at one end with ing at the other with remes is wide enough, but the two half-way for the other, and in skeleton, with all the eal of the Darwinians to find the missing they remain to the experts easily disinguishable and can only be said to resemle. In the light of present knowledge the Caucasian, as an invention, is not anticipated

This is neatly said, but, while it puts Judge Woods on record against the Darwinian theory, it is not conclusive of the question, ecause it is obiter dictum.

The arrest of the Burden jewelry robbers both of the men arrested were servants of Mr. Burden at the time the robbery was committed, it is surprising that the New York police did not shadow them and prevent their departure for England. The London police accomplished, without any clew at all, what the New York detectives failed to do with everything to aid them. The actual value of the jewels stolen was estimated at \$58,000, and as nearly all were recovered the London police who made the arrests will get a handsome reward.

As the result of a law in Minnesota prohibiting the killing of moose the animals have become very numerous in the northern part of the State. Their breeding ground western part of the State, which, being almost inaccessible, forms an ideal park for the largest game animals. For the next few years moose hunting in that region ought to be an attractive sport for gunners who have tired of small game.

If California is going to adopt the threadhare and commonplace report of killing frosts and damaged fruit crops she will have to abandon her claim to originality. Let us rather have a story of perpetual

# RUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Sign of Prosperity.

"Wonder how Thompson is getting along?" "First rate; first rate. I heard him saying he other day that there was no excuse at all in this great and glorious country for a man to do other than well."

Another Difference.

Watts-I guess it is a fact that there is no fference between genius and insanity.

Potts-There is some, anyway. Man can't very well get out of a murder scrape on the plea that he is a genius. Not Necessarily.

"The face." said the proverbial boarder. "is in index to the mind." "Then," said the Cheerful Idiot, "if a w in's face is made up, is it a sign that her nd is in the same condition?"

Allowing for Shrinkage. "It would be money in my pocket if I only new what sort of a summer we were going

my a cheaper suit of ready-made clothes. It won't shrink so much as if there were a whole lot of rainy weather.'

## SCIENTIFIC.

Mountain sickness is found by Professo cuntz to be due more to lessened activity of he heart as a result of over-stimulation than

ome French biologists have collected eviarrots is derived from their human companions, and it has been further shown that the parrots in turn may transmit the disease

Low-level bridges have been found advisable on Queensland rivers subject to severe floods. The cost of high-level bridges is exessive, those of moderate height are very liable to be carried away, while the low-level ones are submerged before logs and drift-wood are brought down in considerable quantities, so that the 'angerous debris passes

It has been noticed in Germany that lightning often passes harmlessly through the ore and molten iron of blast furnaces to the earth, instead of being attracted to the lightning conductors. The suggested explanation is that the aqueous vapor and carbon in the smoke column offer a better conductor o and through the furnace charge than is afforded by the rod outside.

In an investigation of copper-zine loys, M. G. Charpy has tested eighteen different mixtures in various ways. After annealing, it was found that the properties vary quite regularly with proportion of zinc, the rigidity of the alloy increasing with increase of this metal to 45 per cent., and the maximum toughness being reached with zinc at 35 per cent. The effect of a number of different subtested by M. Bruttini with solutions of 1 to 2

stances on the germination of seeds has been per cent. At the end of four days, seeds in a saltpeter solution had sprouted to a degree quite equal to that of seeds in pur-water, but solutions of mercuric chloride ferric chloride, common salt and potassic phosphate had much retarded or entirely prevented germination.

An electric furnace for the reduction of iron ores has been devised by Herr Urbaniszky. It is made large enough for the action to be continuous and on the necessary large scale, the carbons entering from the top and being supported from a disk that can be revolved around a vertical axis. Such a furnace has important advantages for obtaining a pure iron. Only one man is necessary, and with 500 horse power about 220 pounds of pure iron can be produced in twenty-four hours.

A warning to mariners who rely on the sea perceptibly for a considerable distance all around has been given by Captain Macnetric observations at regular intervals tures being the same at a cable's length as at several miles distance. On passing to eeward of a berg a fall of a few degrees was generally observed in the air.

An air-tester, for showing the degree of shown in Zurich. A closed glass vessel is of being bleached by carbonic acid. One end the other end a drop falls every 10 conds and glides slowly down a cord kept stretched by a weight. The more carbonic acid the air contains the quicker the drop loses color. The drop may turn white near the upper end of the cord, if the air is very oul, or it may pass nearly to the other end before the change takes place, such gradu-ations as "extremely bad," "very bad," ations as "extremely bad," "very bad," "passable" and "pure" being marked on cale for the guidance of the observer. The influence of the direction in which the

human body reclines in sleep, though ofter discussed, is doubtless generally regarded as a very trivial question. So eminent a mediup the matter, however, and declares tha been properly investigated, and that is probably of much importance, especially to in valids, feeble and sleepless people. rapid motion of the earth tends to affect the circulation. The blood is inclined toward the head or away from it, according as the head is placed toward the east or the west, and Dr. Richardson finds he sleeps most com-fortably and wakens more readily, with the head in the westerly direction. The edit science Gossip points out that another

is the temporary uneasiness of animal above dawn, no matter at " nat hour this occurs. Children turn and runan, elderly people awaken and turn over for an and horses and cattle move about for a short eriod, when stillness returns for a time ffected by some magnetic wave which precedes sunrise an hour or so, or is the happ one of heredity, passed down through num erless generations from an original wild state when an alertness just before daylight was necessary for protection from enem The liquefaction of gases is now a simple mechanical process. In a recent demonstra-

tion in London, Dr. Hampson used an apparatus twenty-eight inches high by sever paratus as a fine jet, and expanded nearly o atmospheric pressure, its temperature be ing lowered according to a well-known prin The gas thus cooled escaped back ward, being obliged to follow the coils of copper tube by the spiral convolutions be-tween them until it reached the point of final it absorbed heat from the gas in the coils The entering gas was thus expanded at a lower temperature and a still greater until at last the temperature reached the quefying point of gas-1,806 degrees below zero in the case of oxygen-when a considerable proportion was condensed. The liquid oxygen was caught in a glass tube at the rate of about an ounce in a quarter of an hour. The expanded gas is not lost, but

is conducted back to the compressing reser-LITERARY NOTES. "John Oliver Hobbes" is preparing a long novel which is to be called "A School for The library committee of Hull, England

have decided not to buy the poet laureate's works, as there is no demand for that class of literature.' Alexander Dumas has been much in evi ence in this country ever since the presen

nd "Le Demi Monde" have all been played under various names. Mr. Crawford's new novel, "Adam John

tone's Son." will be published by the Mac millans before the end of the month. Th same house is presently to issue in monthly volumes, beginning with "Tartarin of Tarascon," a translation of the complete works of Alphonse Daudet. They announce also a complete edition of Browning in two vo William D. Howells is much beloved in the

literary world. In spite of his success h has never had a touch of the disease vulgarcalled "the big head." Furthermore, h is very sympathetic, and has done many kindly and unselfish things to encourage ing authors. Stephen Crane owes much o ccess to the advice and encouragemen Mrs. Humphry Ward has of late been se-

Notwithstanding this, she has been busily engaged in finishing off her new which will deal again with social re-Mrs. Ward has the double labor of writing and controlling the affairs of Unimore Edwards's Hall, and has been hifted to a new abode.

Baron Ferdinand Rothschild, whose Jiter ary tastes are well known, has written eries of anecdotal sketches relating to French history. They will be published under the title "Personal Characteristics from French History." Some of the people deal with are Louis XIV. Louis XI, Francis Madame de Pompadour, Cardinal Mazarin Voltaire, Marie Leczinska and Cardina

The first of the series of papers on Sout frice which Prof. James Bryce, M. P. o contribute to the Century appears in the imber. He corrects the general im

have retained to this day a passion for soil

A rather interesting piece of literary news omes from Afghanistan. The Munshi, or lecretary of the Sipah Salar Gholam Hyder ing the feats of his master, the prowess of the Afghan soldiers and the submission of any of the Kaffir chiefs. The Ameer has been so favorably impressed by this poem that he has ordered the work to be printed at Kebul, and before long copies may be expected in London.

### ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

Professor Gleason, the horse tamer, has sued for divorce on the ground of extreme Dorsan Astruc, the philatelist, prides him elf on having obatined \$8,000 for two postage

Probably the champion postal-card writer of the world is Mr. Gladstone. He uses Rev. G. Rodgers, an alleged American minister, is in London selling bogus de-grees from the "National University of

The new woman has invaded Indi: The uestion of laying out parks in towns for symnastic exercises of Zenana women is ng ventilated in the press of that coun-

Prince Charles and Princess Maud are to spend about four months of every year in England after their marriage, the rest of the time being spent in Denmark. Appleton House, a place on the Sandringham estate. is to be lent to them by the Prince of Wales The Empress of Austria's villa at Corfu. which was built six years ago, and which cost more than half a million sterling, is to

be seld. The Empress has not spent six months in Corfu since the villa was finished, but declares herself to be tired of Gen. Thomas L. Clingman, of North Carolina, who gained fame as a commander of Confederate troops during the war, and was at one time a United States Senator, is an applicant for admission to the Confederate Soldiers' Home at Raleigh. He is

eighty-three years of age, and is helpless and without resources of any kind. It is now stated that the Dean of Westiemand that Dr. Johnson's gravestone shall be better preserved and rendered more conspicuous to the public. He has had the ancient flaws in it made good with pieces of Irish marble, the lettering has been cut deep and the letters filled with white

The Jews in Russia have lost one of their best friends by the death of Dr. Sergius Alexandrovitch Berschadski, professor of perial University and the Lyceum in Petersburg. He had not a drop of Jewgreater part of his short-lived career to the nterests of that race, and particularly to esearches into their history in Russia, Po-

In the newly published autobiographical hat "you could not widen the Locker without injury to his ears." One day at Malta this frank old gentleman asked a stranger who had just landed to take wine with him, and expressed his obligation for the favor by saying: "Yesterday, sir, I was

the ugliest man in all Malta." Bishop Merrill, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is a strong friend of was speaking of the hard ifficulty the churches had in raising necessary funds. There had been no ment, he said, and none need be looked for until Mr. Reed is elected President. "That," said the Bishop, in his dry way, "amounts to an indefinite postponement." The conference saw the point.

Er-will you," asked he of the maid, "Have a glass of soda or lemonade?" And then the maiden, blushing red-"I think I'll take a pop," she said. The youth turned red, the youth turned And then he fled, far through the night. -Cincinnati Enquirer.

am; how little more I know! Whence came I? Whither do I go? A centered self, which feels and is; cry between the silence A shadow-birth of clouds at strife A shaft from Nature's quiver cast Into the future from the past: Between the cradle and the shroud, A meteor's flight from cloud to cloud.

#### -Whittier. SHREDS AND PATCHES.

Your platonic friend is apt to get real mad if you propose to any one else.-Puck. Again the question of the day is, "What's the score?"-Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph. Speaking about ornithology, did you know

that larks were bred from swallows?-Texas The dentist will make more money per

In every occupation there is but one safe rule and that is always to do one's best.

-The Outlook An ostrich, which has a stomach to stand it, is never invited out to

The man who is true to the best he knows will not miss heaven because he didn't know If a woman is rich and has coarse feat-

es, they are referred to as being "strongly A woman is beginning to

she has trouble in finding a hat that is be-coming to her.—Atchison Globe. The bustle and excitement of the winter season is drawing to a close. Now let us have sweet peas .- Lowell Courier.

our lives wondering why we did things we considered smart.—Milwankee Journal. The depths of middle-aged gentlemen's ignorance will never be known for want of public examination in this branch.-George

Most of us spend a considerable portion of

The modern Christian who turns the other cheek to the people who slap him in the face will get his head knocked off.—Galverton "Mamma, why do they call it the weather

bureau?" "Because the top drawer is generally in such a frightful mess, I suppose." It is a sweetly polemn thought that no

matter how the Booth family row terminates no one but the de hurt.—Chicago Dispatch devil is likely to get No matter how happy and contented a

### man may look, if you give him a chance he will spend the day telling you his troubles.-Los Angeles Express, Made Her Tired.

Philadelphia Times "I am tired," said the Thoughtful Woman, of all this din which the men make about

raining women to be good wives and nothers. There is no denying there is no notier, higher destiny in the world (if it is one successfully), and perhaps none that mains that there are many ave no aptitude for it any more than we have an ear for music, or the capacity the picture, too, seems to be quite lost sight of, for who ever heard of the desirability of training young men to be good husbands and fathers? The casual young man is quite as unfitted as the average tri to bear the responsibility of a household. And suppose, after all our training, we don't become wives and mothers after all, what are we to do then? If they are going to continue to insist on our following only the one vocation they should at least guarantee every one of us a desirable and comfortable match."

#### A Faith Home. New York Post.

There are homes and homes for all sorts of people who need them, but Boston has one which differs in some respects from all others. It is a faith home. It has no board of managers to make its rules, furnish its bill of fare or direct its matron, and those only are admitted who are unable to make compensation. The home was opened eightern years are een years ago. No report of its work has ever been given to the public as a tacit ap-peal for aid; no collector has ever been alg a sale for